

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION**

**Call to Order:** Chair Jeff Essmann, on February 11, 2015 at 8:00 AM, in Room 455  
Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Rep. Jeff Essmann, Chair (R)  
Rep. Casey Schreiner, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Bryce Bennett (D)  
Rep. Bob Brown (R)  
Rep. Moffie Funk (D)  
Rep. Jessica Karjala (D)  
Rep. Debra Lamm (R)  
Rep. Forrest Mandeville (R)  
Rep. Wendy McKamey (R)  
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)  
Rep. Jean Price (D)  
Rep. Ray L. Shaw (R)  
Rep. Kathy Swanson (D)  
Rep. Susan Webber (D)

##### **Members Excused:**

Rep. Bill Harris, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Frank Garner (R)  
Rep. Edward Greef (R)  
Rep. Denise Hayman (D)  
Rep. Austin Knudsen (R)  
Rep. Art Wittich (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Jennifer Petersen, Committee Secretary  
Sheri Scurr, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

##### **Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 400, 2/5/2015; SB 63, 2/5/2015; SB 72, 2/5/2015

00:00:01 Chair Essmann

**HEARING ON SB 63**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:44 Sen. Taylor Brown (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 63, Revise overview of cost-effectiveness by legislative audit committee.

**EXHIBIT(sth31a01)**

00:06:36 Chair Essmann

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:07:04 Sen. T. Brown

00:08:00 Chair Essmann

**HEARING ON SB 72**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:08:12 Sen. Taylor Brown (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 72, Allowing political party endorsements and expenditures in judicial races.

**EXHIBIT(sth31a02)**

00:11:13 Chair Essmann

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:11:21 Jonathan Motl, Commissioner of Political Practices (COPP)

**EXHIBIT(sth31a03)**

00:13:08 Chair Essmann

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:13:29 Rep. B. Brown

00:14:26 Jonathan Motl, COPP

00:15:25 Rep. B. Bennett

00:15:44 Jonathan Motl, COPP

00:16:25 Rep. B. Bennett

00:16:49 Sen. T. Brown

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:17:52 Sen. T. Brown

00:18:46 Chair Essmann

**HEARING ON HB 400**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:19:05 Rep. Geraldine Custer (R), HD 39, opened the hearing on HB 400, Allow  
electronic ballot for disabled voters.  
00:20:36 Chair Essmann

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:20:43 Regina Plettenberg, Election Administrator, Ravalli County  
00:23:54 Chair Essmann  
00:24:01 Lisa Kimmet, Elections and Government Services Deputy, Office of the  
Secretary of State (SOS)  
00:24:59 Chair Essmann  
00:25:10 Joel Peden, Montana Centers for Independent Living (MCIL)  
00:28:06 *Rep. Greef arrives*  
00:29:02 Chair Essmann  
00:29:05 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)  
00:30:35 *Rep. Wittich arrives*  
00:30:39 Chair Essmann  
00:30:47 Joy Bruck, State President, AARP Montana  
00:31:17 Chair Essmann  
00:31:23 Neal Ullman, Montana Conservation Voters (MCV)  
00:31:43 Chair Essmann

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:31:53 Becky Stockton, self  
00:33:50 Chair Essmann

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:34:05 Rep. Lamm  
00:34:24 Rep. Custer  
00:34:36 Rep. Lamm  
00:35:17 Joel Peden, MCIL  
00:35:35 Rep. Lamm  
00:35:47 Joel Peden, MCIL  
00:36:00 Rep. Mandeville  
00:36:38 Regina Plettenberg, Ravalli County  
00:37:29 Rep. Karjala  
00:37:56 Beth Brenneman, DRM  
00:38:23 Rep. Karjala  
00:38:41 Beth Brenneman, DRM  
00:39:21 Rep. Funk  
00:40:16 Regina Plettenberg, Ravalli County  
00:40:44 Rep. Wittich  
00:41:15 Rep. Custer

00:41:33 Rep. Wittich  
00:41:50 Rep. Custer  
00:42:09 Rep. B. Brown  
00:43:12 Rep. Custer  
00:44:27 Rep. B. Brown  
00:44:40 Rep. Custer  
00:44:58 Rep. Karjala  
00:45:31 Joel Peden, MCIL  
00:47:24 Rep. Karjala  
00:47:39 Joel Peden, MCIL  
00:48:35 Rep. Karjala  
00:48:39 Beth Brenneman, DRM  
00:49:21 Rep. Schreiner  
00:50:10 Rep. Custer  
00:51:23 Rep. Schreiner  
00:51:54 Rep. Custer  
00:53:48 Rep. Schreiner  
00:54:01 Rep. Custer  
00:54:09 Rep. Lamm  
00:54:41 Rep. Custer  
00:55:38 Rep. Lamm  
00:55:48 Rep. Custer  
00:56:04 Rep. Lamm  
00:56:13 Rep. Custer  
00:56:24 Rep. Lamm  
00:56:45 Chair Essmann  
00:56:48 Rep. Lamm  
00:57:08 Chair Essmann  
00:57:16 Lisa Kimmet, SOS  
00:58:46 Rep. B. Brown  
00:59:50 Rep. Custer  
01:00:00 Chair Essmann  
01:00:36 Lisa Kimmet, SOS  
01:00:58 Chair Essmann  
01:01:37 Joel Peden, MCIL  
01:02:46 Chair Essmann  
01:03:42 Beth Brenneman, DRM  
01:04:58 Chair Essmann  
01:05:58 Joy Bruck, AARP  
01:06:19 Chair Essmann  
01:06:34 Joy Bruck, AARP  
01:06:47 Chair Essmann  
01:06:51 Rep. Karjala  
01:07:13 Beth Brenneman, DRM  
01:07:29 Rep. Karjala  
01:07:49 Beth Brenneman, DRM  
01:08:04 Chair Essmann

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:08:12 Rep. Custer

01:09:13	Chair Essmann
01:09:43	Rep. Schreiner
01:09:52	Chair Essmann

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 01:10:00

---

Jennifer Petersen, Secretary

jp

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([sth31aad.pdf](#))**